

**IN THE CLAIMS**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application. An identifier indicating the status of each claim is provided.

Listing of Claims

1. (currently amended) An information processing apparatus connected to a network, comprising:

recording means for recording the identification information pertinent to ~~an other~~ a second information processing apparatus;

receiving means for receiving the identification information ~~on said other information processing apparatus~~, sent from said ~~other~~ second information processing apparatus, when said ~~other~~ second information processing apparatus is connected via said network, the identification information used to identify said second information processing apparatus;

verifying means for verifying whether ~~or not~~ said identification information received by said receiving means has already been recorded ~~in~~ by said ~~other~~ recording means; and

controlling means for controlling said ~~other~~ second information processing apparatus over said network based on verified results by said verifying means.

2. (currently amended) The information processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said identification information includes ~~the~~ a serial number of said ~~other~~ second information processing apparatus.

3. (currently amended) The information processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said controlling means causes said ~~other~~ second information processing apparatus to execute first setting processing ~~when it is verified~~ upon verification that said identification information received by said receiving means has already been recorded in said recording means,

said controlling means causing said ~~other~~ second information ~~processing~~ processing apparatus to execute second setting processing ~~when it is verified~~ upon verification that said identification information received by said receiving means has not ~~as yet~~ been recorded in said recording means.

4. (currently amended) The information processing apparatus according to claim 3, wherein said first ~~and~~ setting processing and the second setting processing represent setting processing ~~necessary~~ for said ~~other~~ second information processing apparatus to utilize said network.

5. (currently amended) The information processing apparatus according to claim 4, wherein said controlling means sends an address on said network of a server used for connecting said ~~other~~ second information ~~processing~~ apparatus to said network, to said ~~other~~ second information processing apparatus, and sets the address so sent, as the information necessary for said ~~other~~ second information processing apparatus to utilize said network.

6. (currently amended) The information processing apparatus according to claim 4, wherein said recording means further records the inherent information for specifying a user of said ~~other~~ second information ~~processing~~ processing apparatus;

said controlling means requests transmission of said inherent information to said

~~other~~ second information processing apparatus ~~if it is verified~~ upon verification that said identification information received by said receiving means has ~~already~~ been recorded in said recording means.

7. (currently amended) The information processing apparatus according to claim 6, wherein said inherent information includes a password.

8. (currently amended) The information processing apparatus according to claim 4, wherein ~~if it is verified~~ upon verification that said identification information received by said receiving means has ~~as yet not~~ been recorded on said recording means, said controlling means requests said ~~other~~ second information processing apparatus to transmit the information on a user ~~exploiting~~ utilizing said ~~other~~ second information processing apparatus.

9. (currently amended) An information processing method for an information processing apparatus connected to a network, comprising:

a recording controlling step of controlling ~~the~~ recording of ~~the~~ identification information pertinent to ~~an other~~ a second information processing apparatus, wherein said identification information is used to identify said second information processing apparatus;

a receiving step of receiving the identification information related to the second information processing apparatus ~~on said other information processing apparatus~~, sent from said ~~other~~ second information processing apparatus when said ~~other~~ second information processing apparatus is connected via said network;

a verifying step of verifying whether ~~or not~~ said identification information received by ~~processing~~ in said receiving step has already been recorded ~~been controlled as to recording in said other recording step in the processing~~ in said recording controlling step; and

a controlling step of controlling said ~~other~~ second information processing apparatus over said network based on ~~verified~~ results by the ~~processing in~~ of said verifying step.

10. (currently amended) A recording medium having recorded thereon a computer-readable program for controlling an information processing apparatus connected to a network, said program including:

a recording controlling step of controlling ~~the recording of the~~ identification information pertinent to an other information processing apparatus to identify said second information processing apparatus;

a receiving step of receiving the identification information ~~on said other information processing apparatus~~; sent from said ~~other~~ second information processing apparatus when said ~~other~~ second information processing apparatus is connected via said network;

a verifying step of verifying whether ~~or not~~ said identification information received by the ~~processing in said~~ receiving step has already been ~~controlled as to recording~~ recorded in the ~~processing in~~ said recording controlling step; and

a controlling step of controlling said ~~other~~ second information processing apparatus over said network based on ~~verified~~ results by the ~~processing in said~~ verifying step.

11. (currently amended) An information processing apparatus connected to a network, comprising:

storage means for storing ~~the~~ identification information;

transmission means for transmitting said identification information stored in said storage means over said network to ~~an other~~ a second information processing apparatus to identify said second information processing apparatus;

receiving means for receiving ~~the~~ first control information transmitted from said ~~other second~~ information processing apparatus over said network, based on said identification information transmitted from said transmission means; and

setting means for setting the information necessary for utilizing said network based on said first control information received by said receiving means.

12. (currently amended) The information processing apparatus according to claim 11, wherein said setting means sets the information necessary for exploiting said network in a first mode when said control information received by said receiving means is the first control information; said setting means setting the information necessary for exploiting said network in a second mode when said control information received by said receiving means is ~~the~~ second control information.

13. (currently amended) The information processing apparatus according to claim 11, wherein said setting means executes first setting processing when the identification information transmitted by said transmission means has ~~already~~ been recorded in said ~~other~~ second information processing apparatus;

said setting means executing second setting processing when the identification information transmitted by said transmission means has ~~already been~~ recorded in said ~~other~~ second information processing apparatus.

14. (currently amended) The information processing apparatus according to claim 13, wherein said first setting processing and the second setting processing represent information setting processing necessary for said information processing apparatus to ~~exploit~~utilize said network.

15. (currently amended) The information processing apparatus according to claim 14, wherein said setting means receives an address on said network of a server connecting said information processing apparatus to said network, ~~as the information necessary in exploiting said network,~~ and ~~sets the so received address.~~

16. (currently amended) The information processing apparatus according to claim 11, wherein said ~~other~~ second information processing apparatus ~~further stores the inherent information used~~ for specifying a user of said second information processing apparatus;

said setting means transmitting said inherent information to said ~~other~~ second information processing apparatus if said identification information transmitted by said transmission means has ~~already been~~ recorded in said ~~other~~ second information processing apparatus.

17. (currently amended) The information processing apparatus according to claim 16, wherein said inherent information includes a password.

18. (currently amended) The information processing apparatus according to claim 11, wherein said setting means transmits ~~the~~ information pertinent to a user employing said ~~other~~ second information processing apparatus to said ~~other~~ second information processing apparatus if said identification information transmitted by said transmission means has ~~as yet~~ not been recorded in said ~~other~~ second information processing apparatus.

19. (currently amended) An information processing method for an information processing apparatus connected to a network, comprising:

a storage controlling step of controlling ~~the~~ storage of ~~the~~ identification information;

a transmission step of transmitting said identification information ~~controlled as stored during to storage by processing in~~ said storage controlling step over said network to an ~~other~~ a second information processing apparatus, wherein said identification information is used to identify said second information processing apparatus;

a receiving step of receiving the control information transmitted from said ~~other~~ second information processing apparatus over said network, based on said identification information transmitted by processing in said transmission step; and

a setting step of setting the information necessary for utilizing said network based on said control information received by processing in said receiving step.

20. (currently amended) A ~~recording medium having recorded thereon a computer-readable~~  
medium adapted to store a computer program for controlling an information processing  
apparatus connected to a network, said computer program including

program code for a storage-controlling step of controlling the storage of the  
identification information;

program code for a transmission step of transmitting said identification  
information ~~controlled as stored during to storage by processing in~~ said storage controlling step  
over said network to an ~~other~~ second information processing apparatus, wherein said  
identification information is used to identify said second information processing apparatus;

program code for a receiving step of receiving the control information transmitted  
from said ~~other~~ second information processing apparatus over said network, based on said  
identification information transmitted by processing in said transmission step; and

program code for a setting step of setting the information necessary for utilizing  
said network based on said control information received by processing in said receiving step.